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April 5, 2004 LB 1065

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Baker, would you respond?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, I would.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Senator Baker, on this green sheet that you handed out a while ago, you have down there the off-roads fund, \$375,000 a year. And then you're telling me that 65 percent of that already comes from the ethanol plants?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, that's correct.

SENATOR LOUDEN: In other words, that's about \$243,000 out of that comes from the ethanol plants already. Now since Cargill and...who was the other one, ADM or somebody, is producing over a half of the ethanol, are they buying over half of that off-road vehicle fuel?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, they are.

SENATOR LOUDEN: And then when you put that back then do they get that entire amount of money back? Or is that divided up among the other ethanol plants? In other words, are you using Cargill and ADM's gas tax money to help fund some of your smaller plants?

SENATOR BAKER: No, no. Each plant has to spike their ethanol with 5 percent no-lead fuel. So they're all paying that tax. And that's...that \$375,000 is what that would raise, but it would be across the entire spectrum of ethanol producers clear across the state.

SENATOR LOUDEN: In other words then, between the \$375,000 and the \$243,000, as far as bookkeeping concerned, it's nearly that push for 65 percent, then only the other 35 percent goes to other people with the off-road vehicles, which runs around \$130,000 or so. Is that correct?

SENATOR BAKER: That's correct.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yeah. Now, one other question. Between the .3 of motor fuel fee, which comes to about \$2.5 million, and